

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 06768 021253Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /083 W
-----088086 021259Z /53

O 021245Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6192
INFO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

S E C R E T CAIRO 06768

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR MASS EG SO UR
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SOVIET OBSTACLES TO EGYPTIAN SHIPMENTS
TO SOMALIA

REF: (A) CAIRO 6131, (B) STATE 47224

1. AFTER ATHERTON MEETING WITH SADAT YESTERDAY IN ISMAILIA, I STAYED BEHIND A FEW MINUTES TO DISCUSS AMONG OTHER THINGS HORN OF AFRICA SITUATION. VP MUBARAK, PRIMIN SALEM AND FONMIN KAMEL WERE ALSO PRESENT.

2. AFTER I HAD MADE POINTS THAT I WISHED TO CONVEY, PRIMIN SALEM ASKED ABOUT SOVIET HARRASSMENT OF EGYPTIAN VESSELS EN ROUTE TO SOMALIA. I TOLD HIM THIS WAS FIRST TIME I HAD HEARD SUCH A SUGGESTION FROM EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL. ANOTHER DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUE, WHO ALLEGED TO HAVE OBTAINED HIS INFORMATION FROM AN EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL, HAD MADE SUCH A CLAIM, BUT NO EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL HAD HERETOFORE RAISED SUBJECT. I NOTED THAT OUR BEST INFORMATION, AS OF ABOUT A WEEK AGO, INDICATED NO SOVIET OBSTACLES TO
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EGYPTIAN SEABORNE SHIPMENTS. SALEM NEVERTHELESS CLAIMED THAT SOVIET VESSELS ARE STOPPING AND "SEARCHING" EGYPTIAN AND OTHER VESSELS GOING THROUGH THE BAB AL-MANDEB BOUND FOR BERBERA. WHEN ASKED FOR DETAILS, HE COULD NOT BE SPECIFIC, BUT CLAIMED HE HAD HEARD THAT THIS IS THE CASE.

3. SADAT ALSO EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT SALEM'S CLAIM AND SAID

THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME HE HAD HEARD OF IT. HE RECALLED
WE HAVE U.S. NAVAL VESSEL IN AREA AND ASKED IF WE COULD
OBTAIN ANY CONFIRMATION THROUGH IT OR THROUGH ANY OTHER
MEANS AVAILABLE TO US WHETHER SOVIET VESSELS ARE IN FACT
STOPPING EGYPTIAN SHIPS BOUND FOR SOMALIA.

4. PLEASE ADVISE IF THERE IS ANY PERTINENT INFORMATION
SINCE THAT INDICATED REF B. EILTS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SHIP HARASSMENT, INFORMATION EXCHANGE, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Errors: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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